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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5593  
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INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE  
THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE  
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JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE  
DIA WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE  
AMCONSUL KARACHI  
AMCONSUL LAHORE  
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AMEMBASSY LONDON  
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UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 07 ISLAMABAD 002576

STATE FOR INR/R/MR, IIP/T, IIP/G/NEA-SA, SA  
SA/PAB, SA/INS, SA/RA, SA/PD, DRL  
LONDON FOR POL/GOODRICH; PARIS FOR POL/HANSON  
CENTCOM PUBLIC AFFAIRS-MAJ.BALDWIN/SGT. BAKER  
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E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: OPRC, PGOV, PREL, KMDR, PK

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SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: PAKISTAN POLITICAL  
SITUATION/REFERENDUM; TERRORISM/USAMA BIN LADEN;  
PAK-U.S. RELATIONS; MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS; INDO-  
PAK TENSIONS

(APRIL 06-08, 2002)

NEWS:

PAKISTAN POLITICAL SITUATION/REFERENDUM  
TERRORISM/USAMA BIN LADEN  
MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS

OPINION:

PAKISTAN POLITICAL SITUATION/REFERENDUM  
INDO-PAK TENSIONS  
MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS

1. HEADLINES

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"1300 AL-QAIDA MEMBERS HAVE 70 COUNTRIES CAPTURED;  
AMERICAN INSTALLATIONS AND EMBASSIES STILL UNDER  
THREAT FROM TERRORISTS: CIA," "DIN" (04/08)

"PROTEST BY VICTIMS OF U.S. BOMBING: DEMONSTRATORS  
BATON-CHARGED IN FRONT OF U.S. EMBASSY KABUL," "DIN"  
(04/08)

"WE WILL TRACK MUSHARRAF; WE WILL HOLD A PUBLIC  
MEETING WHEREVER HE DOES: ARD," "DIN" (04/08)

"PAKISTANI INTELLIGENCE TEAM WILL GO TO CUBA TO  
INTERROGATE AL-QAIDA DETAINEES," "DIN" (04/08)

"I WANT THE DEATH PENALTY FOR SHAIKH OMER; IF  
CONVICTED, EXECUTION SHOULD TAKE PLACE IN PAKISTAN:  
PRESIDENT MUSHARRAF," "JANG"

"JIHAD IS THE ONLY SOLUTION TO PALESTINE ISSUE: JOINT  
ACTION FORUM," "JANG" (04/08)

"SAUDI INTELLIGENTSIA ASKS KINGDOM TO RECONSIDER ITS  
RELATIONS WITH U.S.," "JANG" (04/08)

"U.S. WILL GET RESPONSE TO ITS OPPRESSION: MULLA  
OMER'S MESSAGE ON TALIBAN'S WEBSITE," (04/08)

-- NEWS

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-- PAKISTAN POLITICAL SITUATION/REFERENDUM

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2. "I'M REQUIRED OR NOT, MUSHARRAF TO ASK NATION" A NEWS STORY IN THE CENTER-RIGHT NATIONAL DAILY, "THE NATION" (05/06)

QUOTE: PRESIDENT MUSHARRAF ON FRIDAY SAID THE DECISION TO HOLD REFERENDUM WAS TAKEN TO KNOW WHETHER THE PEOPLE REQUIRED HIM OR NOT FOR THE CONTINUITY OF POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC REFORMS IN THE COUNTRY.... "CHECKS AND BALANCES, NATIONAL INTEREST, REFORMS CONTINUITY AND INTER-PROVINCIAL HARMONY ARE THE FOUR PRE-REQUISITES FOR STRENGTHENING OF DEMOCRACY," THE GENERAL SAID IN HIS ADDRESS TO THE NATION.... END QUOTE.

3. "MUSHARRAF'S SHOW OF POWER TOMORROW" NEWS STORY IN THE CENTRIST NATIONAL DAILY, "THE NEWS" (05/08)

QUOTE: ALL IS SET FOR A GRAND SHOW OF POWER AND POPULARITY BY PRESIDENT MUSHARRAF AT THE SPRAWLING MINAR-E-PAKISTAN LAHORE GROUND WHERE HE WILL ADDRESS

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UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 07 ISLAMABAD 002576

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PAK TENSIONS

THE FIRST-EVER PUBLIC RALLY OF HIS POLITICAL CAREER  
AND PHYSICALLY TEST THE POLITICAL WATERS.... END  
QUOTE.

4. "ARD TO MOBILIZE MASSES AGAINST REFERENDUM" A  
NEWS STORY IN THE KARACHI-BASED INDEPENDENT NATIONAL  
DAILY, "DAWN" (05/08)

QUOTE: THE ALLIANCE FOR THE RESTORATION OF DEMOCRACY,  
A CONGLOMERATE OF 15 POLITICAL PARTIES, ON SUNDAY  
REJECTED THE REFERENDUM AND ANNOUNCED THAT IT WILL  
HOLD PROTEST RALLIES AT ALL PLACES WHERE MUSHARRAF  
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PAGE 03 ISLAMA 02576 02 OF 07 081115Z  
WOULD HOLD PUBLIC MEETINGS.... HE SAID THE ARD WOULD  
CALL ON THE OUTSIDE DEMOCRATIC NATIONS, PARTICULARLY  
THE MEMBER STATES OF THE COMMONWEALTH, AND THE WORLD

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MEDIA TO BEWARE OF THE REAL DESIGNS OF THE MILITARY RULERS IN THE GARB OF THE SO-CALLED 'RESTORATION OF DEMOCRACY' AFTER THE FARCE OF A REFERENDUM.... END QUOTE.

5. "IT'S A WAR AGAINST CORRUPTION: RASHID" A NEWS STORY IN THE KARACHI-BASED INDEPENDENT NATIONAL DAILY, "DAWN" (05/08)

QUOTE: MAJOR-GENERAL RASHID QURESHI ON SUNDAY SAID THAT THE PRESIDENT AND HIS GOVERNMENT HAD NOT LAUNCHED A WAR AGAINST DEMOCRACY BUT AGAINST THE EXPLOITATION, CORRUPTION, LOOT AND PLUNDER OF NATIONAL WEALTH THAT BENAZIR BHUTTO DID.... END QUOTE.

-- TERRORISM/USAMA BIN LADEN

6. "USAMA FLED A FEW HOURS BEFORE AMERICAN TEAM'S RAID IN FAISALABAD," "NAWA-E-WAQT" (04/08)

QUOTE: LAHORE -- USAMA BIN LADEN STAYED IN FAISALABAD FOR THREE DAYS AND FLED A FEW HOURS BEFORE THE JOINT FBI, PAKISTANI TEAM'S RAID. AS PER ROUTINE, HE LEFT HIS DEPUTY ABU ZUBAYDA BEHIND, WHO WAS CAUGHT DURING THE RAID. END QUOTE.

7. "UNDISCLOSED FACTS OF CRACKDOWN ON AL QAEDA" NEWS STORY IN THE KARACHI-BASED INDEPENDENT NATIONAL DAILY,  
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"DAWN" (04/08)

QUOTE: THE UNDISCLOSED DETAILS OF THE RECENT COUNTRY-WIDE CRACKDOWN ON AL QAEDA MEN SHOW THAT THE SUCCESS OF THE ENTIRE OPERATION, 'A LA HOLLYWOOD THRILLER,' LAY IN THE FACT THAT ALL THE 13 'LIGHTENING' RAIDS WERE EXECUTED SIMULTANEOUSLY IN FAISALABAD, LAHORE AND KARACHI AT 2:00AM WITH ALL SUSPECTS CAUGHT OFF GUARD.... SOURCES SAID FBI AGENTS APPEARED ON THE SCENE ONLY AFTER THEY WERE SIGNED THAT ALL THE AL QAEDA SUSPECTS HAD BEEN OVERPOWERED BY THE POLICE. INTERIOR MINISTRY AND INTELLIGENCE SOURCES INVOLVED IN THE OPERATION REJECTED REPORTS SUGGESTING THAT FBI AGENTS LED THE RAID.... END QUOTE.

8. "PENTAGON CRASH NEVER OCCURRED," A NEWS STORY IN THE ISLAMABAD'S RIGHTIST ENGLISH DAILY, "PAKISTAN OBSERVER" (04/08)

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QUOTE: THIERRY MEYSSAN DOES NOT BELIEVE A WORLD OF  
WHAT HAS BEEN PROJECTED BY THE AMERICAN MEDIA. TO HIM  
THE GAME PLAYED BY THE U.S. ELECTRONIC MEDIA WAS WELL-

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DESIGNED BY THE BUSH ADMINISTRATION TO MISLEAD THE WORLD AND TO JUSTIFY LAUNCHING THE UNITED STATES AS AN IMPERIAL POWER IN THE THIRD MILLENNIUM. THE NEW THEORY ARGUES THAT THE PLANE THAT SMASHED INTO THE PENTAGON NEVER EXISTED AND THAT THE WORLD HAS BEEN DUPED BY A MURKY U.S. GOVERNMENT PLOT.... END QUOTE.

-- MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS

9. "100 U.S. TROOPS PERISH IN PAKTIA OFFENSIVE?"  
NEWS STORY IN THE CENTRIST NATIONAL DAILY, "THE NEWS"  
(04/07)

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QUOTE: THE U.S. ARMY SUFFERED HEAVY LOSSES IN AFGHANISTAN DURING ITS OFFENSIVE AGAINST TALIBAN AND AL-QAEDA FIGHTERS IN SHAHI-KOT VALLEY ON THURSDAY NIGHT, A MEDIA REPORT SAID.... NEARLY 100 U.S. SPECIAL FORCES PERSONNEL WERE KILLED, ABOUT 200 INJURED AND FOUR APACHE HELICOPTER GUNSHIPS WERE DESTROYED IN THE OFFENSIVE AT PAKTIA PROVINCE IN EASTERN AFGHANISTAN AND A RUSSIAN ONLINE NEWSPAPER....  
END QUOTE.

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OPINION  
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-- PAKISTAN POLITICAL SITUATION/REFERENDUM

10. "PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS," AN EDITORIAL IN THE CENTRIST NATIONAL DAILY, "THE NEWS" (04/07)

QUOTE: MUSHARRAF IN HIS ADDRESS TO THE NATION ON FRIDAY NIGHT UNDERScoreD THE IMPORTANCE OF CONTINUITY OF THE REFORMS AND THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE MILITARY REGIME IN PUTTING THE COUNTRY BACK ON THE RAILS, AND IT WAS FOR THIS PURPOSE THAT HE SEEKS THE SUPPORT OF

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THE PEOPLE TO CONTINUE IN POWER.... MOREOVER, IN  
SPITE OF GENERAL MUSHARRAF'S TAKEOVER BEING AN  
UNCONSTITUTIONAL ACTION, IT WAS WARMLY WELCOMED BY THE  
PUBLIC AND DID NOT FACE MUCH OPPOSITION.... GIVEN THE  
ACHIEVEMENTS OF HIS REGIME, THE PRESIDENT DID MAKE A  
STRONG CASE FOR CONTINUITY IN POWER TO ENSURE THE

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SUSTAINABILITY OF THE WORK DONE.... END QUOTE.

11. "REFERENDUM REACTION," AN EDITORIAL IN THE  
CENTER-RIGHT NATIONAL DAILY, "THE NATION" (04/06)  
QUOTE: INTERNATIONAL REACTION TO THE PRESIDENT'S  
REFERENDUM DECISION DISPLAYS INTERESTING DIVERGENCES.  
MOST OF THE WORLD IS PAYING LITTLE ATTENTION TO IT.  
HOWEVER, IN WESTERN COUNTRIES THERE ARE CLEAR CONCERNS  
ABOUT THE VALIDITY OF THE EXERCISE. WHILE EUROPEAN  
COUNTRIES SEEM TO ENTERTAIN SERIOUS DOUBTS ABOUT IT,  
AS DOES EDITORIAL OPINION IN THE U.S. PRINT MEDIA,  
U.S. OFFICIAL CIRCLES SEEM TO BE DISINCLINED TO MAKE  
TOO MUCH OF A FUSS. WHILE GENERAL MUSHARRAF MIGHT TAKE  
STRENGTH FROM THIS TACIT SUPPORT, HE SHOULD NOTE THAT

NO ONE IS DEFENDING THE REFERENDUM AS THE EXEMPLAR AND  
PARAGON OF TRUE DEMOCRACY THAT THE PAKISTAN GOVERNMENT  
WOULD ARGUE THAT IT IS. EVEN PRO-MUSHARRAF U.S.  
OFFICIALS ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THE EXERCISE IS NOT  
DEMOCRATIC.... THEREFORE, WHILE THE PRESIDENT ENJOYS  
U.S. SUPPORT NO MATTER WHAT HE DOES, THIS IS NOT A  
RELIABLE SOURCE OF STRENGTH. THE BEST SOURCE IS ALWAYS

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PAK TENSIONS

THE PEOPLE'S GOODWILL. TO ACHIEVE THIS, THE GOVERNMENT  
SHOULD NOT USE ITS LICENSE TO DO WHAT IT WANTS, BUT  
SHOULD CONDUCT THE COMING REFERENDUM SO FAIRLY AND  
TRANSPARENTLY, THAT THE EXERCISE IMPRESSES THE PEOPLE  
OF PAKISTAN. END QUOTE.

-- INDO-PAK TENSIONS

12. "THE CALL FOR TALKS" AN EDITORIAL IN THE CENTER-  
RIGHT NATIONAL DAILY, "THE NATION" (04/08)

QUOTE: THERE ARE CREDIBLE INDICATIONS OF BEHIND-THE-

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SCENES MOVES, MAINLY BY THE USA, TO DEFUSE THE THREAT  
TO REGIONAL PEACE ARISING FROM INDIA'S MASSIVE BUILDUP  
ON THE BORDER WITH PAKISTAN.... MR. CAMP'S  
EXHORTATION TO NEW DELHI TO ENSURE THE WIDEST POSSIBLE  
PARTICIPATION OF KASHMIRIS IN THE STATE ELECTIONS IS  
SUPERFLUOUS, AS INDIA WOULD LOVE NOTHING MORE THAN TO  
OBTAIN MAXIMUM VOTER TURNOUT TO GAIN LEGITIMACY FOR  
THE SHAM EXERCISE. EVEN OTHERWISE, AT ISSUE IS NOT THE  
ELECTION, BUT THE UN-MANDATED PLEBISCITE WHICH WOULD  
DECIDE, ONCE AND FOR ALL, THE QUESTION OF THE STATE'S  
ACCESSION.... THE BEST WAY TO ENSURE DE-ESCALATION AND  
RESUMPTION OF TALKS BETWEEN THE TWO NUCLEAR-ARMED  
RIVALS IS FOR THE U.S. TO PRESSURE INDIA TO GIVE UP  
ITS INTRANSIGENCE.... END QUOTE.  
-- MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS

13. " REVIVING ZIONISM," AN EDITORIAL IN THE CENTRIST  
NATIONAL DAILY, "THE NEWS" (04/06)

QUOTE: PRESIDENT GEORGE BUSH'S CALL FOR AN ISRAELI  
WITHDRAWAL FROM THE RECENTLY OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN  
AREAS COMES MUCH TOO LATE AFTER THE DAMAGE HAS BEEN  
DONE BY HIS EARLIER BLIND SUPPORT FOR THE OCCUPATION.  
THERE IS LITTLE REASON TO EXPECT ARIEL SHARON TO OBEY  
THE U.S. PRESIDENT'S DEMAND AS IT IS UNLIKELY THAT  
WASHINGTON WILL FOLLOW UP WITH TOUGH MEASURES TO  
ENFORCE THE WITHDRAWAL. AT BEST A COMPROMISE WILL BE  
WORKED OUT BY STAGING A SHOW OF ACCEDING TO THE U.S.  
DEMAND WITH ISRAELI TROOPS QUITTING A FEW OF THE  
SMALLER AREAS AND WASHINGTON NODDING SATISFACTION....

IN MAKING THE WORLD SAFE FOR UNITED STATES, HE HAS

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ALSO ENSURED THE SAFETY OF ISRAEL FROM THE DANGER THAT  
HAS LONG HAUNTED IT. SHARON OBVIOUSLY WAS QUICK TO  
RECOGNIZE THE IMPROVED ENVIRONMENT THAT HAS ENCOURAGED  
HIM TO RESORT TO THE KIND OF RUTHLESS TERRORISM THAT  
WAS UNLEASHED BY THE ZIONIST FIGHTERS AGAINST THE  
ARABS IN THE HOLY LAND AFTER THE END OF WORLD WAR II.  
ALL THIS MIGHT WELL MEAN THAT SHARON WILL NOT STOP  
SHORT OF RESUMING THE ZIONIST WAR TO COMPLETE THE  
AGENDA. THIS IS A SCENARIO THAT PRESIDENT BUSH WOULD  
DO WELL TO APPRECIATE AS THE ENTIRE RESPONSIBILITY TO  
CONTROL SHARON'S AMBITIONS BEFORE IT UNLEASHES AN  
ARMAGEDDON IN THE MIDDLE EAST RESTS ON HIM. END  
QUOTE.

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14. "THE LAST HOPE" AN EDITORIAL IN THE CENTER-RIGHT NATIONAL DAILY, "THE NATION" (04/08)

QUOTE: IN A RATHER BELATED MOVE, PRESIDENT BUSH HAS SENT SECRETARY POWELL TO THE MIDDLE EAST TO INDUCE A MEASURE OF SANITY THERE. THE SWITCHOVER OCCURRED AFTER THE FAILURE OF SPECIAL ENVOY ANTHONY ZINNI'S THIRD "PEACE MISSION." IN AN APPARENT POLICY MANEUVER,

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STATE FOR INR/R/MR, IIP/T, IIP/G/NEA-SA, SA  
SA/PAB, SA/INS, SA/RA, SA/PD, DRL  
LONDON FOR POL/GOODRICH; PARIS FOR POL/HANSON  
CENTCOM PUBLIC AFFAIRS-MAJ.BALDWIN/SGT. BAKER  
USCINCPAC FOR POLAD AMBASSADOR HOLZMAN  
SECDEF FOR PA

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, PGOV, PREL, KMDR, PK

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: PAKISTAN POLITICAL

SITUATION/REFERENDUM; TERRORISM/USAMA BIN LADEN;

PAK-U.S. RELATIONS; MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS; INDO-  
PAK TENSIONS

PRESIDENT BUSH HAS ALSO COUNSELED RESTRAINT TO ISRAEL,  
THOUGH THE GUARDED TONE OF THE "ADVICE" REFLECTS THE  
STRANGLEHOLD OF THE ZIONIST LOBBY.... WASHINGTON MUST  
REIN IN ISRAEL, FORCE IT TO HALT THE INVASION,  
WITHDRAW TO ITS PRE-1967 BORDERS, AND RENOUNCE ITS  
SETTLEMENTS POLICY. CROWN PRINCE ABDULLAH'S PEACE  
INITIATIVE, ENDORSED BY THE BEIRUT SUMMIT, REPRESENTS  
THE LAST HOPE FOR THE BELEAGUERED REGION. END QUOTE.

15. "BUSH'S BELATED WISDOM," AN EDITORIAL IN THE  
KARACHI-BASED INDEPENDENT NATIONAL DAILY, "DAWN"  
(04/06)

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QUOTE: PRESIDENT BUSH HAS SAID NOW WHAT HE SHOULD  
HAVE SEND MUCH EARLIER WHEN THE ISRAELIS BEGAN THEIR  
REOCCUPATION OF RAMALLAH AND BESIEGED YASSER ARAFAT'S  
HEADQ

UARTERS LAST MONTH. IN A WHITE HOUSE SPEECH ON  
THURSDAY, MR. BUSH ASKED ISRAEL TO PULL OUT OF THE  
PALESTINIAN TOWNS BECAUSE "THE STORMS OF VIOLENCE"  
COULD NOT GO ON. "ENOUGH IS ENOUGH," HE SAID.... ONE  
HOPES THAT MR. SHARON WILL COOPERATE WITH THE U.S.  
SECRETARY OF STATE. THE FIRST AND FOREMOST STEP ISRAEL  
NEEDS TO TAKE IS TO WITHDRAW FROM THE PALESTINIAN  
TOWNS IT HAS REOCCUPIED. NEXT, IT MUST STOP THE  
CONSTRUCTION AND EXPANSION OF THE JEWISH SETTLEMENTS -  
SOMETHING THAT MR. BUSH HAD THE GOOD SENSE TO CALL  
FOR. THE ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL WILL ITSELF LEAD TO A DE-  
ESCALATION OF THE VIOLENCE AND MAY EVENTUALLY PAVE THE  
WAY FOR A LASTING CEASEFIRE. IT IS ONLY WHEN A  
CEASEFIRE IS IN PLACE THAT ONE CAN HOPE FOR A REVIVAL

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OF THE PEACE PROCESS. END QUOTE.

16. "PALESTINIAN MARTYRDOM WON'T BE IN VAIN," AN EDITORIAL BY NAJAM SETHI IN THE LAHORE-BASED ENGLISH LANGUAGE INDEPENDENT WEEKLY, "THE FRIDAY TIMES" (04/05-11)

QUOTE: ... NON-STATE TERRORISM AND VIOLENCE ARE SYMPTOMS OF CONFLICT, NOT ITS CAUSES. ISRAEL AND THE U.S. DON'T RECOGNIZE THIS AS YET BUT THEY WILL, EVENTUALLY. THE FACT IS THAT EVEN AS ISRAEL WAGES AN UNJUST WAR IN PALESTINE, THE REST OF THE WESTERN WORLD  
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IS SLOWLY BEGINNING TO WAKE UP TO THE TRUTH AND PROTEST ITS NAKED TRANSGRESSION. IN THAT SENSE, THE BLOOD OF THE MARTYRS OF PALESTINE WILL NOT HAVE BEEN IN VAIN. END QUOTE.

17. "MASSACRE IN PALESTINE," AN EDITORIAL NOTE IN THE SECOND LARGEST URDU DAILY, "NAWA-E-WAQT" (04/08)

QUOTE: ISRAEL IS A SATELLITE STATE OF AMERICA, RATHER AN ADOPTED STATE. ISRAEL HAS THE BLESSING OF THE BUSH ADMINISTRATION FOR THE TERROR THAT IT HAS UNLEASHED.... PRESIDENT BUSH SHOULD NOT UNDERESTIMATE PEOPLES' DEMONSTRATIONS IN SUPPORT OF PALESTINE AND AGAINST ISRAEL, HE HIMSELF BEING AN IMPORTANT CHARACTER OF THIS VIOLENCE.... PRESIDENT BUSH IS URGENTLY REQUIRED TO MANAGE A CEASE-FIRE AND ORDER ISRAEL TO WITHDRAW ITS TROOPS FROM PALESTINIAN AREAS AND IMPLEMENT THE UN RESOLUTIONS. HE SHOULD NOT FORGET THAT PUBLIC OPINION IS FAST TURNING AGAINST HIM. END QUOTE.

18. "PALESTINIANS MASSACRE," AN EDITORIAL IN THE PRO-

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STATE FOR INR/R/MR, IIP/T, IIP/G/NEA-SA, SA  
SA/PAB, SA/INS, SA/RA, SA/PD, DRL  
LONDON FOR POL/GOODRICH; PARIS FOR POL/HANSON  
CENTCOM PUBLIC AFFAIRS-MAJ.BALDWIN/SGT. BAKER  
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E.O. 12958: N/A  
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PAK-U.S. RELATIONS; MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS; INDO-  
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MUSLIM LEAGUE URDU DAILY, "PAKISTAN" (04/08)

QUOTE: IT IS IRONIC THAT WHILE ISRAEL INDULGES IN THE  
MASSACRE OF PALESTINIANS, PRESIDENT BUSH ACCUSES  
PALESTINIANS OF TERRORISM.... THE UN AND ITS SECURITY  
COUNCIL ARE HELPLESS BEFORE THE STUBBORNNESS OF

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ISRAEL; THE WORLD KNOWS THAT WITH AMERICAN BACKING ISRAEL COULD NOT DARE DO THAT. IT IS BEYOND ANY EXPLANATION THAT IN THE PRESENT SITUATION, AMERICA IS THE ONLY POWER THAT CAN KEEP ISRAEL WITHIN ITS LIMITS. END QUOTE.

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19. "WAGGING THE DOG," AN EDITORIAL IN THE CENTER-RIGHT NATIONAL DAILY, "THE NATION" (04/06)

QUOTE: ... THE NEW INITIATIVE COMES IN THE WAKE OF INCREASING CRITICISM OF WASHINGTON'S CONTINUOUS UNCRITICAL SUPPORT OF MR. SHARON'S AGGRESSIVE POLICIES. THAT PRESIDENT BUSH HAD TO RESORT TO A SCATHING ATTACK ON PRESIDENT ARAFAT AS A PREAMBLE TO WHAT WAS ACTUALLY QUITE STRONG CRITICISM OF TEL AVIV INDICATES THE INFLUENCE ENJOYED BY THE ZIONIST LOBBY IN WASHINGTON.... DESPITE ITS SMALL SIZE, ISRAEL IS THE LARGEST BENEFICIARY OF WASHINGTON'S FOREIGN AID. U.S. ALSO UNDERWRITES ITS SECURITY AND SUPPLIES IT WITH MILITARY HARDWARE. TEL AVIV HAS KEPT ITS PATRON'S MIDDLE EAST POLICY A HOSTAGE TO ITS NATIONAL INTERESTS. THE BLIND SUPPORT EXTENDED TO ISRAEL HAS NOT ONLY ISOLATED THE U.S. FROM THE ARAB COUNTRIES, BUT HAS ALSO CAUSED WIDESPREAD RESENTMENT ALL OVER THE MUSLIM WORLD WITH THE RESULT THAT WASHINGTON IS INCREASINGLY SEEN AS THE ENEMY OF MUSLIMS. BY CONTINUING TO BACK ISRAELI AGGRESSION, THE U.S. HAS UNWITTINGLY STRENGTHENED THE VERY FORCES OF EXTREMISM IT SEEKS TO ELIMINATE.... IF WASHINGTON WANTS TO WIN THE SYMPATHIES OF THE ARAB AND MUSLIM WORLD, IT MUST USE ITS CLOUT TO PROVIDE JUSTICE TO THE PALESTINIANS, WHO HAVE BEEN SUBJECTED TO FOREIGN OCCUPATION FOR TOO LONG, AS WELL AS TO OTHER OPPRESSED MUSLIM PEOPLES, LIKE THE KASHMIRIS. END  
QUOTE.

20. "PRESIDENT BUSH MUST ADOPT PRAGMATISM," AN  
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EDITORIAL IN THE LEADING MASS CIRCULATION URDU DAILY, "JANG" (04/08)

QUOTE: PRESIDENT BUSH SPEAKS IN AN AUTHORITATIVE TONE WITH THE ARAB AND MUSLIM LEADERS TO GET THINGS DONE. BUT WHEN IT COMES TO ISRAEL, HIS TONE IS NOT AUTHORITATIVE BUT PARTISAN AND BROTHERLY. PRESIDENT

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BUSH AND PRIME MINISTER TONY BLAIR MUST NOT FORGET THE REALITY THAT AFTER THE LEADERSHIP OF PRESIDENT YASIR ARAFAT NEGOTIATIONS WITH ANY OTHER PALESTINIAN LEADER WILL NOT ACHIEVE ANYTHING. WHETHER THEY LIKE IT OR NOT, BUSH AND BLAIR WOULD AGAIN HAVE TO TALK TO YASIR ARAFAT FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. PRESIDENT BUSH'S HATRED FOR ARAFAT AND HIS POLITICALLY IMPRUDENT POSITION OF NOT TRUSTING HIM WILL NOT BRING PEACE TO THIS REGION. END QUOTE.

21. "SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST," AN EDITORIAL IN THE SENSATIONALIST URDU DAILY, "UMMAT" (04/08)

QUOTE: ISRAEL IS FULLY AWARE [THAT ITS THINKING IS INDEPENDENT] OF THE U.S., WHICH IS WHY IT DOES NOT

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STATE FOR INR/R/MR, IIP/T, IIP/G/NEA-SA, SA  
SA/PAB, SA/INS, SA/RA, SA/PD, DRL  
LONDON FOR POL/GOODRICH; PARIS FOR POL/HANSON  
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GIVE MUCH IMPORTANCE TO ANY OF U.S. STATEMENT AGAINST  
ISRAEL. THAT IS WHY THEY HAVE NEGLECTED BUSH'S DEMAND  
TO WITHDRAW TROOPS FROM PALESTINIAN AREAS. END QUOTE.

22. "PRESIDENT BUSH IS RESPONSIBLE," AN EDITORIAL  
IN THE KARACHI-BASED RIGHT WING PRO ISLAMIC UNITY URDU  
DAILY, "JASARAT" (04/06)

QUOTE: PRESIDENT BUSH MUST BE BLAMED FOR THE BLOODY  
SITUATION IN PALESTINE. HE HAS EXCEEDED ALL LIMITS  
WITH HIS UNCALLED-FOR SUPPORT TO ISRAEL WHICH HAS LED  
THE SITUATION TO THE CURRENT IMBROGLIO. THE PROBLEM  
WITH THE U.S. IS THAT IT WANTS TO TEACH A LESSON TO

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ALL THE JIHADI FORCES IN THE ISLAMIC WORLD. THE U.S.  
THINKS THAT BY CRUSHING SUCH MOVEMENTS IN AFGHANISTAN  
AND PALESTINE, ALL OTHER ANTI-U.S. MOVEMENTS IN THE  
MUSLIM WORLD WILL BREAK DOWN. IN FACT, THESE SUICIDAL  
ATTACKS ARE THE PUNISHMENT TO BOTH ISRAEL AND  
AMERICA. THIS WILL NOT END BUT WILL FURTHER EXPAND  
THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. END QUOTE. SISON

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